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## **Nordic universities presenting Arctic humanities and social sciences climate change research for policy lessons at COP21**

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# Northern Notes

Issue 45 - Spring / Summer 2016



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Photo credits: Svetlana Serikova

## In This Issue . . .

### Secretariat's Corner

- Welcome from the President. . . . . [1](#)
- From the IASSA Secretary . . . . . [2](#)
- ICASS IX - CALL FOR SESSIONS. . . [3](#)

### Features

- Understanding the social dynamics of homelessness in Nuuk, Greenland. . . [4](#)
- Update: Arctic-FROST Research Network in 2015. . . . . [5](#)
- #ArcticLessons - Nordic universities presenting Arctic humanities and social sciences climate change research for policy lessons at COP21. . . . . [8](#)
- Largest Arctic Science Summit Week to date is a Leap forward for Arctic research and policy. . . . . [8](#)
- Arctic Frontiers 2016. . . . . [10](#)
- Nunavut Arctic College Revitalizes its Press. . . . . [10](#)
- Connecting Science with Society – Step by step . . . . . [12](#)
- SHWG IASC Report . . . . . [13](#)
- IASC SYMPOSIUM 'DO WE SPEAK THE SAME LANGUAGE OF SCIENCE?' . . . . . [15](#)
- The 2016 Arctic Observing Summit – the Process and Path Forward. . . . [16](#)
- The notion of 'traditional food' in contemporary West Greenland - a Master student project . . . . . [18](#)

### Calls for Papers. . . . . [19](#)

### Upcoming Conferences. . . . . [20](#)

### Recent Conferences & Workshops

- ARCUM researchers coordinating a new book on rural tourism . . . . . [22](#)

### Announcements . . . . . [23](#)

### New Publications . . . . . [27](#)

### End notes . . . . . [33](#)

## Welcome from the President

The month of May is nearly over and Umeå has suddenly changed to its summer dress. This is only a couple of weeks earlier than the time for ICASS IX next year, and hopefully we can present a setting as lovely as it is today. Spring was full of Arctic events and initiatives. Together with Diane Hirshberg I represented IASSA at the Arctic Council SAO meeting in Fairbanks in mid-March. During the back-to-back arrangement of ASSW Diane was also responsible for the session Reframing Understandings of the North: Placing Social Sciences and Humanities at the Center of Interdisciplinary Arctic Research. The bulk of observer organizations (IASC, IASSA, WWF, UArctic, IPS) had a meeting in Fairbanks to exchange views on the common interests, current and future plans, needs and how to build successful relationships and enhance the role of in the Arctic Council. It was discussed and agreed, that there is a need in better information exchange, a real interest and momentum for work on crosscutting issues, which link to the social science and to natural science together. Joint interests include the Arctic social observing network with the indigenous communities, use and co-management of marine protected areas, conservation of future livelihoods, Arctic Council future agenda on resilience and adaptation, joint interests and actions through the University of the Arctic.



Peter giving a presentation at the Swedish Polar Research Secretariat

Photo credits: Gabriella Nordin

In August 2015, in conjunction with his participation in the GLACIER (Global Leadership on the Arctic: Cooperation, Innovation, Engagement, and Resilience) Summit in Anchorage, President Barack Obama became the first sitting U.S. President to set foot in the Arctic. To stimulate an upgraded effort

### Welcome from the President continued

to exploit opportunities for collaborative activities, the Obama Administration is planning an international White House Arctic Science Ministerial (ASM) for late summer 2016. On top of the discussion list is Arctic science challenges and their regional and global implications. In late April the European Union presented a new integrated policy for the Arctic that strengthens the research ambitions. And it is obvious that scientific efforts are not synonymous to climate challenges but rather to that of a sustainable development of the region. Infrastructures, economies, societies, globalization, geo-politics and indigenous peoples are explicitly mentioned as important.

Also in Sweden we can see an increasing acknowledgement from the government that Arctic research is not restricted to natural science. At the symposium Challenges and Opportunities in the Arctic the Swedish minister of

research Helen Hellmark-Knutsson stated that social sciences and humanities are indispensable to a holistic and long-term understanding of the Arctic. In order to be able to see and describe Arctic research some definitions are of uttermost importance. What is the geographic definition of the Arctic and what is the definition of Arctic research? These challenging questions are in the forefront of several inventory initiatives where IASSA is promoting the position of the sciences branches represented in the organization.

With that I wish you a really nice summer.

**Peter Sköld, IASSA President**

\* \* \* \* \*

### From the IASSA Secretary

In Umeå the Spring is finally here and we look forward to a long restful Summer followed by a productive Fall.

As many of you might have recognized the new IASSA e-mail list are up and running by now. Recent problems resulted in some delays in distributing information to our e-mail list members. This was due to hacker attacks on Arctic Portal servers (who hosts the IASSA website as well as the e-mail list) but from now on the problems seems to be solved. From now on we sincerely hope that the e-mail list will work accordingly. Information which you want distributed at the IASSA e-mail list are to be sent to me and I will forward it to our list-members.

The planning of ICASS IX is getting more intense as the months go by. This will get evident as the ICASS organizing group will distribute a series of calls this Fall. Please note the announcement on Session Call that was distributed earlier this Spring. For full Session Call see below and do not forget to send me your session proposals before **September 23rd!**

I wish you all lovely upcoming summer vacations with lots of sun, warmth and time to hang out with family and friends!

Gabriella Nordin  
Secretary, IASSA  
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IASSA website: [www.iassa.org](http://www.iassa.org)



Flowering bird-cherry tree nearby Umeå University campus, spreading a wonderful scent and gives a glimpse of Umeå next year at ICASS IX.

*Photo credits: Gabriella Nordin*

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## ICASS IX - CALL FOR SESSIONS

The International Arctic Social Sciences Association (IASSA) announces the **9th International Congress of Arctic Social Sciences (ICASS IX)** to be held at the campus of Umeå University, in **Umeå, Sweden, from 8-12 June 2017**.

ICASS is held every three years, bringing together people from all over the world to share ideas about social science and humanities research in the Arctic. ICASS VIII, held in May 2014, attracted 470 participants from 27 different countries.

IASSA is now seeking proposals for sessions. Please submit them by **23 September 2016** to **Gabriel-la Nordin** ([gabriella.nordin@umu.se](mailto:gabriella.nordin@umu.se)). Please include session title, name of session, organizer and complete contact information, and a brief description of the session. General ideas on sessions will also be gratefully accepted.

ICASS IX's theme is People & Place. Research on social sciences and humanities have a great responsibility to address the challenges for sustainable development in the Arctic, with a specific focus on the many different parts of the Arctic and the people that live there. The multiple Arctics have lately been addressed by many policy makers and researchers. The purpose is often to counteract the stereotypic understanding of the Arctic too often represented by icebergs and polar bears. A focus on people and place highlights the many variances across the region in terms of climate, political systems, demography, infrastructure, history, languages, legal systems, land and water resources etc. etc. We welcome sessions and papers on all facets of the North. And, as always, we also welcome sessions and papers on all other subjects of relevance to our members.

We encourage the participation of indigenous peoples, northern residents, decision-makers and politicians, as well as academics, so that ICASS IX provides a rich environment in which to advance discussions on sustainabilities in the North and on other Northern matters.

**The Call for Papers will be distributed in Autumn 2016, with a preliminary list of sessions.**

### Important dates on the way to ICASS IX

**Early August 2016** Call for IASSA Award  
**September 23, 2016** Deadline Session Call  
**Late October 2016** Call for Papers  
**November 1, 2016** Deadline for IASSA Award  
**December 18, 2016** Deadline for Papers  
**Mid January 2017** Early bird registration opens



ARCUM and the ICASS IX Organizing Committee welcomes you to Umeå in June 2017!

*Photo credits: Mattias Pettersson*

## Understanding the social dynamics of homelessness in Nuuk, Greenland

By: Steven Arnfjord (University of Greenland) and Julia Christensen (Roskilde University)

Homelessness is a growing concern in Arctic urban centres like Greenland's capital Nuuk, where visible signs of homelessness have emerged since the beginning of the 21st century. Homelessness and housing need across the circumpolar North is a testament to a host of social and structural challenges, many of which manifest themselves in distinct ways in northern regions. Meanwhile, devolution, resource development and climate change continue to boost the economic and political significance of Arctic towns and cities, and demographic change suggests that Arctic urbanization is gaining momentum (Dybbroe et al. 2010; Hansen et al. 2013a; Pedersen 2008).

Nuuk (16.800 inhabitants) is the capital city of Greenland (56.500 inhabitants), and the city where visible signs of homelessness in the country are most apparent. In many ways, Nuuk demonstrates similar mechanics to those found in the rest of the world's urban centres, where the uneven concentration of social, economic, infrastructural and institutional resources acts as a draw for those who are in need or in search of opportunity. Those who often find themselves living under homelessness, however, generally do not have either a resourceful social network, nor lack the skills and/or qualifications that are in the demand by the current labour market. The demand for a skilled and modernized workforce is one challenge of Greenland's rapid modernization from former colony to a self-governing nation. These changes in combination with demographic shifts have put an untimely pressure on the government to supply people with affordable housing, all in a part of the world where transportation, infrastructure and labour costs are significant. Underlining or worsening the transitional challenges inherent to modernization and urbanization in the Greenlandic context are the many and complex structural, social and health factors that relate to homelessness.

Meanwhile, the social dynamics of homelessness in Nuuk are commonly understood through a western-oriented perspective rooted in the experiences of urban locales in Europe or North America. The principal aim of this research is to not only advance a place-based understanding of the social dynamics of homelessness in Nuuk, but also to propose practical solutions towards promoting context-relevant resources and programming to support the health and wellbeing of the men and women currently living under homelessness. This aim is mobilized through an action-oriented approach towards the production of meaningful research outcomes through research objectives that emphasize the

health and social strength of Greenlandic people and communities (see Arnfjord and Andersen 2014).

In this research project, we take a broad approach to homelessness in order to account for both the socio-structural processes of marginalization, processes that are part and parcel of urbanization, as well as the everyday life experiences of people living under the conditions of homelessness in Nuuk. An examination of the health and social factors contributing to homelessness in Nuuk, and their interactions with social welfare institutions in both the rural-urban relocation and reproduction of homelessness, forms the starting point for our study. In particular, we are interested in approaching the emergence of visible homelessness in Nuuk as a lens through which we can understand the dynamics of urbanization and social marginalization (i.e. class, colonial effects, social determinants of health) in a Greenlandic context. Yet at the same time, we seek to identify and understand the informal social and cultural resources that currently assist people living under homelessness to cope with, or help exit, homelessness. An exploration of local concepts of home and homemaking will significantly inform the development and implementation of effective housing, social and health supports.

We are currently engaged in a collaborative, community-based research approach with a range of qualitative methods over a period of two years (2016-2018). Men and women living homeless in Nuuk are interviewed using a biographical interview approach (May 2000) to identify the role of social factors and their management by social welfare institutions in rural-urban pathways. Their contributions provide expert insight into the everyday situations of homelessness in Nuuk. Policy makers and support providers are also interviewed following a semi-structured interview guide that places emphasis on participant observations and experiences with men and women experiencing homelessness in the community. The role of local NGOs in providing resources to people living under homelessness, like the Kofoed Skole, the Salvations Army and a small homeless support organisation NoINI, are also explored. Finally, a digital storytelling project employing participatory photography and research participant narratives serves as both a research method and output to create a space for research participants to present their experiences in their own voices and to illustrate the connections between life experiences, social institutions, and homeless pathways (Lambert 2013).

This project responds to research gaps identified

### Understanding the social dynamics of homelessness in Nuuk, Greenland continued

By: Steven Arnfjord (University of Greenland) and Julia Christensen (Roskilde University)

across several critical studies in the field of northern homelessness and housing need (Christensen 2012, 2013; Hansen and Andersen 2013; Tester 2006) and engages with several key research reports on Arctic urbanization and housing (Hansen et al. 2013a; Hansen et al. 2013b) and Arctic migration and mobility (Nordregio 2010). It also directly informs policy and research reports released in recent years by the Government of Greenland (e.g. the Tax and Welfare Commission, the Homeless in Greenland survey, and the Addiction Treatment Needs report).

This project is funded by the Danish Resource Council (Det Frie Forskningsråd) and the National Health Board of Greenland Research Funding program.

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### Update: Arctic-FROST Research Network in 2015

By: Andrey N. Petrov, Arctic-FROST PI and Director, ARCTICenter, University of Northern Iowa

#### Introduction

Research Coordination Network "Arctic-FROST: Arctic FRontiers Of SusTainability: Resources, Societies, Environments and Development in the Changing North" (NSF PLR #1338850) is an international, interdisciplinary, and collaborative network of environmental and social scientists, local educators, and community members from all circumpolar countries. Its primary purpose is to enable and mobilize research on sustainable Arctic development. The network aims to support improved health, human development, and wellbeing of Arctic communities while conserving ecosystem structures, functions and resources. The intellectual goal of the project is to contribute to conceptual, applied, and educational aspects of Arctic sustainability science by supporting the dissemination of knowledge and exchange of methodologies across the four Arctic-FROST themes: sustainable regions, economies, cultures, and environments. Arctic-FROST is based at the UNI Arctic, Remote and Cold Territories Interdisciplinary Center (ARCTICenter).

Arctic-FROST address three overarching questions: What does sustainable development in the Arctic mean, locally, regionally, and globally? How is sustainable development attainable in a changing Arctic? What are the best ways of measuring achievements towards adaptation, thriving and sustainable development in the Arctic?

Membership in Arctic-FROST is open to anyone with interests in sustainability and sustainable development in the Arctic. Since its inception in September 2013, the network has amassed more than 250 members from the 20 countries including all Arctic jurisdictions with 55% coming from the U.S., 29% from Europe and Russia, and 15% from Canada. Alongside seasoned academics and community

members more than half of the RCN members are early career scholars or graduate students. The network also involves Indigenous scholars and members of underrepresented groups.

The network has an extensive plan of activities for 2014-2018 consisting of annual meetings, early career scholar workshops, community workshops, the first Arctic Sustainability Education Forum in 2018, and multiple smaller theme-based conferences throughout each year. First-year events include the inaugural Arctic-FROST meeting was held in late 2013 at the University of Northern Iowa and the first annual meeting and early careers scholars workshop entitled "Sustainability and Sustainable Development in the Arctic: Meanings and Means" took place in Anchorage, Alaska on September 18-20, 2014.





### Update: Arctic-FROST Research Network in 2015 continued

By: Andrey N. Petrov, Arctic-FROST PI and Director, ARCTICenter, University of Northern Iowa

#### 2015 General Events

In 2015 Arctic-Frost held its second annual meeting and early career workshop in St. Petersburg, Russia on August 15-17, 2015. Meeting's theme was "Resources and Sustainable Development: Can, Should and Will Resource-based Development be Sustainable?". It gathered a diverse group of researchers representing multiple disciplines, demographic groups and countries. The meeting was followed by the early career scholars workshop. In addition to St. Petersburg meetings, Arctic-FROST hosted and co-sponsored many domain and side meetings, as well as workshops. These include: five "Polar Geographies" sessions at the Association of American Geographers Meeting (Chicago, IL); ASSW 2015/International Conference on Arctic Research Planning III (Toyama, Japan), where Arctic-FROST held a special session on Arctic sustainability and ICARP III session/panel; "Sustainable development in the Arctic" sessions at the International Geographical Union Meeting (Moscow, Russia) "Arctic Sustainability Research: Agenda 2025" ICARP III white paper workshop (Charleston, SC); "Canada and U.S.: Allies and Partners in the Arctic" symposium (Cedar Falls, IA), and "Resources and sustainable development" northern community workshop co-sponsored with ReSDA (Kuujuuaq, QC), as well as multiple public events in Iowa to raise awareness about environmental and social change in the Arctic.



Arctic-FROST members are committed to deliver a number of key products, including two edited volumes devoted to sustainable development in the Arctic, a textbook on Arctic sustainability, other educational materials, academic publications, and a research plan for Arctic sustainability science for the next decade. The initial version of this plan was presented at the Third International Conference on Arctic Research Planning (ICARP III) on April 23-30,

2015, where Arctic-FROST co-organized two panels. The Arctic-FROST members also contributed to the "Northern Sustainable" volume edited by Gail Fondahl and Gary Wilson (UNBC).



#### "Sustainability that Works" Community Knowledge Sharing Workshops

In 2015 Arctic-FROST actively collaborated with other research networks and organizations, such as Resources and Sustainable Development in the Arctic (ReSDA), Research Coordination Network in Arctic Urban Sustainability, International Arctic Science Committee (IASC), International Arctic Social Sciences Association (IASSA), Association of Polar Early Career Scientists (APECS), and others. With ReSDA-Arctic-FROST Kuujuuaq workshop the two networks launched a collaborative initiative to hold a series of community workshops under the common theme "Sustainability that works", where researchers and community members can exchange their practical experiences with sustainable development projects. The second workshop will take place in Alaska in 2016.

In March 2016 Arctic-FROST held a community knowledge-sharing "Sustainability that Works" workshop in Nome, Alaska. The workshop was a forum where Arctic-FROST researchers and community members shared that-of-the-art knowledge and community perspectives on sustainable development in the Arctic. Participants from Canada, Alaska and Russia discussed their experiences in respect to successes and challenges of long-term, sustainable development in their communities. The event brought together gathered nine researchers and Indigenous community members from outside Nome, as well as local participants/speakers from Kawerak Inc, Bering Straits Native Corporation, local village corporations, local utility and UAF Northwest campus. Some themes and ideas emerged during the

### Update: Arctic-FROST Research Network in 2015 continued

By: Andrey N. Petrov, Arctic-FROST PI and Director, ARCTICenter, University of Northern Iowa

workshop included: (1) community interest in development when such development is done in a way that maximizes local benefits and minimizes negative impacts; (2) importance of resource and self-governance; (3) necessity of "post-resource" planning; (4) investments in local capacities and people in the community (transferable skills); (5) need for "new money" in Alaska economy, new economies will make communities more sustainable; (6) issues of Arctic youth; (7) role of leadership and entrepreneurship in ensuring sustainable development. Arctic-FROST will continue knowledge-sharing workshop in Arctic communities in collaboration with ReSDA and other partners.



In 2016 Arctic-FROST will hold its annual science meeting in Vienna, Austria. The meeting will be devoted to "Arctic Sustainability in a Global Context." ([www.uni.edu/arctic/frost](http://www.uni.edu/arctic/frost)).

#### Other 2015 highlights:

**Annual meeting abstracts.** Abstracts were produced for the Annual meeting and made freely available on Arctic-FROST's website. A fancier version of abstracts/proceedings is coming shortly. Abstracts and selected paper for side and domain workshops were

published by respective conferences.

**Other publications.** A book "Northern Sustainable" (edited by Gail Fondahl and Gary Wilson) with chapters written by Arctic-FROST members (ICASS VIII and annual meeting participants) is in print by Springer. Selected members published peer-reviewed articles and book chapters.

White paper "Arctic Sustainability Research: Agenda 2025." Presented at ICARP III and prepared for publication.

**Peer-reviewed volumes.** Work has begun on the first peer-reviewed volume "Arctic Sustainability: A Synthesis of Knowledge". We established writing team and developed a plan to move forward.

**Arctic-FROST web portal** is operational. Facebook page was launched. These are primary tools for publication, rapid circulation and dissemination of network activities. [www.uni.edu/arctic/frost](http://www.uni.edu/arctic/frost)

**Collaborative research proposals.** Arctic-FROST members developed a number of successful collaborative interdisciplinary and international proposals, which directly benefited from Arctic-FROST activities in 2014-2015: Belmont Arctic call (NSF/Nordforsk/RFB/RCN) synthesis project "Arctic Sustainability: A Synthesis of Knowledge" (PI Petrov), IASC Arctic Sustainability Workshop (PI Petrov, Fondahl and Schweitzer), Foreign Affairs Canada Arctic Symposium funding (PI Petrov and Cruz). Finally, a group of Arctic-FROST members collaborated with RCN in Russian Arctic Urban Sustainability to develop a successful NSF grant "PIRE: Promoting Urban Sustainability in the Arctic" (PIs Orttung, Heleniak, Laruelle, Streletskiy and Shiklomanov).

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### #ArcticLessons - Nordic universities presenting Arctic humanities and social sciences climate change research for policy lessons at COP21

By: Rasmus Gjedssø Bertelsen (UiT, AAU), Peter Sköld (UmU)

Universities among other civil society organizations have the possibility to be registered civil society organizations under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and as such send observers to the annual conferences of the parties of the convention. France hosted the 21st conference of the parties (COP21) of the UNFCCC at Le Bourget north of Paris from the 30th of November to the 12th of December 2015.

The University of Tromsø-the Arctic University of Norway (UiT) had gained registered civil society organization status under the UNFCCC for COP21. The Faculty of Humanities, Social Sciences and Teaching (HSL) at UiT and Rector Anne Husebekk therefore decided to use this opportunity to showcase Arctic humanities and social sciences climate change research for its policy lessons for the world. UiT gathered a group of Nordic universities with strong research traditions in Arctic climate research across disciplines: Aarhus University (Denmark), Umeå University (Sweden), University of Iceland and University of Lapland (Finland) as well as Nordic Arctic indigenous peoples represented by Aili Keskitalo, President of the Sami Parliament of Norway. The Nordic countries (Norden) covers culturally, naturally and socially important parts of the Arctic, both the West-Nordic societies with close cultural, environmental and social connections with North America, and East-Nordic with connections to North-West Russia. Moreover, the Nordic countries are all small and Arctic states. They are also highly developed states, with a strong tradition of contributing to international cooperation in the United Nations system and to development, environment and hu-

man rights questions.

The event aimed to contribute to decision making for climate change in the Arctic region. A special focus was given to research results from the social sciences and humanities. The event addressed how the five Nordic countries contribute to global climate diplomacy, regulation, mitigation and adaptation through Arctic social sciences and humanities. The event also shed light on how climate change affects the indigenous population in the Arctic region.

Brynhildur Davidsdóttir at University of Iceland discussed responsible development of resources in the Arctic is key to blue and green growth, while Berit Kristoffersen at UiT The Arctic University of Norway concluded that Arctic states cannot exploit all new economic opportunities. Ilona Mettiäinen at University of Lapland in Rovaniemi, Finland argued that regional and local level action plans are crucial for adaptation to climate change in the Arctic, and Cécile Pelaudeix at Aarhus University, Denmark stated that Governance of fossil fuels in the Arctic needs inclusive management and trust-based contracts. Peter Sköld at Umeå University, Sweden highlighted that climate change is a serious challenge to reindeer herding, Sami culture and Sami health. The session was finalized when the President of the Sami Parliament in Norway, Aili Keskitalo, delivered her concluding remarks. The session was moderated by Rasmus G. Rasmussen from UiT The Arctic University of Norway.

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### Largest Arctic Science Summit Week to date is a Leap forward for Arctic research and policy

By: Kristin Timm, Science Communications Lead, Scenarios Network for Alaska and Arctic Planning, University of Alaska Fairbanks

**Over 1000 Arctic experts and enthusiasts convened in Fairbanks, Alaska from March 11-18 for the 2016 Arctic Science Summit Week, Arctic Observing Summit and numerous other meetings and events. With participants representing 30 nations and more than 130 different institutions, the gathering represents a significant step towards the future of Arctic research and policy.**

While this was the 18th Arctic Science Summit Week (ASSW) convened by the International Arctic Science Committee (IASC) and its partner organizations, the conference achieved many notable firsts. For the first time, the Arctic Council held their Senior Arctic Officials meeting in conjunction with the

Arctic Science Summit Week. It was also the first time that representatives from the US Polar Research Board (US PRB), US Arctic Research Commission (US ARC), European Polar Board (EPB), Polar Knowledge Canada (PKC), and the Asian Forum on Polar Sciences (AFOPS) jointly convened. The University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF) hosted the first International Arctic Assembly in the middle of the week when most of the meeting participants overlapped. Approximately 100 smaller side meetings and sessions complemented these and other major meetings. From Arctic health and community resilience, to data collaboration and science communication, the diversity of meeting subjects was astounding.

### Largest Arctic Science Summit Week to date is a Leap forward for Arctic research and policy continued

By: Kristin Timm, Science Communications Lead, Scenarios Network for Alaska and Arctic Planning, University of Alaska Fairbanks

Participants were equally diverse, with roughly a tenth of the conference participants representing Arctic indigenous groups and private industry. An additional 20 percent of participants represented local, state/provincial, or federal governments or agencies. This convergence of scientists, policy makers, technical specialists, security and defense representatives, local residents, and indigenous stakeholders enabled an extensive and genuine exchange of ideas and concerns. The week provided an excellent opportunity for a dialogue to better understand the complex interplay of interests in the Arctic and to translate scientific research into specific plans and actions to respond to rapid Arctic change.

The conference provided an indication of the acute ability of the Arctic community to pull together towards common visions and goals, despite their different scientific disciplines, missions, and nationalities and progress was made on several specific issues, including:

#### Arctic Science Summit Week

ASSW created opportunities for collaboration and strategic planning on international research projects. With representatives from federal agencies and other governing bodies, the enabled the concerns of many perspectives to be included and ensures communication to all major parties involved.

#### Arctic Observing Summit

The Arctic Observing Summit resolved to create an observing system that will support decision making in a rapidly changing environment. "Arctic change is a consequence of global change, with global repercussions, and addressing it is a global responsibility," the statement concludes. "It is time to move forward with full intent and full engagement and act on these recommendations of summit participants."

#### Third International Conference on Arctic Research Planning

The final conference statement from the Third International Conference on Arctic Research Planning was released during ASSW 2016. This was released as a plan for integrating Arctic research as a roadmap for the future. Numerous recommendations focused upon understanding the role of the Arctic in the global system. Additional guidance was provided to enhance observations and increase the predictive capability of future climate dynamics and ecosystem responses. Many recommendations were targeted to understanding the vulnerability and resilience of arctic environments and societies.

Many school children, community members, and press were also engaged in the excitement and energy that surrounded the summit. Over 150 pieces of original art and videos were submitted by students from Alaska and as far away as Russia, Wisconsin, and Arizona. Over 30 public outreach events, field trips, and UAF facility tours were conducted over the course of the week giving Alaskans and the Fairbanks community opportunities to mingle with conference participants and learn about science and policy issues in their Arctic backyard. Social media and live web streaming enabled virtual participation in several parts of the meeting, and 2,000 unique views were documented when people around the world joined the live web-stream. Eight journalism fellows helped carry the unique stories from the week and Arctic science more generally to audiences around the nation and world through articles in numerous news outlets including the Washington Post, the Guardian, and EFE (largest Spanish-language news service).

Hosting the largest Arctic Science Summit Week to date was no small effort. The Fairbanks community, the Fairbanks Convention and Visitors Bureau, over 200 volunteers, and dozens of sponsors made this event possible. In addition to countless hours and in-kind support by the University of Alaska Fairbanks, the major conference sponsors included:

- National Science Foundation
- NASA
- Department of Energy
- NOAA
- North Slope Science Initiative
- Alaska EPSCoR
- U.S. Arctic Research Commission
- Alaska Ocean Observing System
- North Pacific Research Board

If you attended ASSW or AOS, please help us evaluate the meeting by completing the short post conference evaluation:

<http://goo.gl/forms/Gn5KXBL66a>

Photos, videos, documents, news stories, and more information about the 2016 Arctic Science Summit Week, please visit: [assw2016.org](http://assw2016.org).

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### Arctic Frontiers 2016

By: Rasmus Gjedssø Bertelsen (UiT, AAU) & Peter Sköld (UmU)

24-29 January 2016 Arctic Frontiers was held in Tromsø, Norway, which was also a 10 year anniversary. The conference is an important arena for discussions on Arctic issues, and gathered more than 1500 participants. The jubilee themes were Industry and Environment – a return to the topics of the very first conference.

The Arctic has over the past decade become an area of increased political importance. From being a still stretch in international politics, the Arctic is now an exuberant expanse where almost every nation has a stated interest. This year, high-level politicians set to speak at Arctic Frontiers included the Republic of Korea's Foreign Minister Yun Byung-se, Singapore's Foreign Minister Dr. Vivian Balakrishnan, Denmark's Foreign Minister Kristian Jensen, Finland's Foreign Minister Timo Soini, Norway's Foreign Minister Børge Brende, and U.S. Special representative for the Arctic, Admiral Robert Papp.

The conference highlighted the balance between environmental concerns and industrial expansion in the Arctic. The first two days concerned Policy, where high-level politicians discussed stewardship, sustainability and economic growth in the Arctic. The Arctic Frontiers Business section organised networking sessions and keynote presentations on technological innovation and technology transfer in seafood and offshore industries. The Arctic Frontiers Science section gathered world-leading researchers on environmental issues, Arctic stewardship, and technology needs in the Arctic.

The Arctic Frontiers conference has witnessed an intensified global interest in the Arctic. Moreover, rapid changes take place and the conference presented discussions on technological advances, pronounced climate change, the U.S. Chairmanship of the Arctic Council, the EU Arctic dimension in its research and innovation framework, Horizon 2020, and increased Russian presence in the Arctic. The fact that several Asian nations also turn their attention towards the Arctic was highlighted, and the 20 year anniversary of the Arctic Council was celebrated. Furthermore, the Arctic Economic Council commemorated its first two years of operation.

Arctic frontiers is a dynamic arena for Arctic policy-making and research. The program is so extensive that it is impossible to grasp for any individual participant. But there is something of interest for everyone, and a lot of important discussions to take part in. The authors were actively engaged in the side-event Sustainable Development of the Arctic Indigenous People and Asian States Contribution. Among the themes covered were globalization, climate change and regional cooperation. Challenges, opportunities, and practical experiences of Asian research collaboration were in focus, and ideas for extended initiatives were discussed.

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### Nunavut Arctic College Revitalizes its Press

By: Sean Guistini

Nunavut Arctic College (NAC) has been publishing for almost three decades. Many of these publications share the perspectives of Inuit who weathered the bewildering movement from the land to settlements in the middle of the 20th century, and the voices of those who entered residential schools. These books were published for readers, students, and instructors in the Eastern Arctic and were never widely distributed to the south. This past year NAC established Nunavut Arctic College Media in an effort to broaden its role in informing Canadians and the world about Inuit history, language, and culture.

In the 1990s and early 2000s renowned scholars such as Louis-Jacques Dorais, Jean Briggs, Bernard Saladin d'Anglure, Frederic Laugrand, Jarich Oosten, and Willem Rasing collaborated with NAC to publish the Inuit Language Series, Interviewing Inuit Elders Series, Inuit Perspectives on the 20th Century Series, and Memory and History Series. More recently Louis McComber edited the Life Stories of Northern Leaders Series and Inuit Leadership and

Governance Series.

This unique collection of books has only ever been known to a select group of readers as NAC did not have a mandate to distribute their books to a wider audience. In 2015 NAC made publishing a priority as a means to provide the college with more resources and to more effectively inform "the South" about Nunavut. A full-time manager was hired to arrange southern distribution, engage new scholarship and writers, liaise with southern university presses, and to focus on editorial and design. This initiative has created Nunavut Arctic College Media which not only publishes books, but also develops audio, film, and web projects.

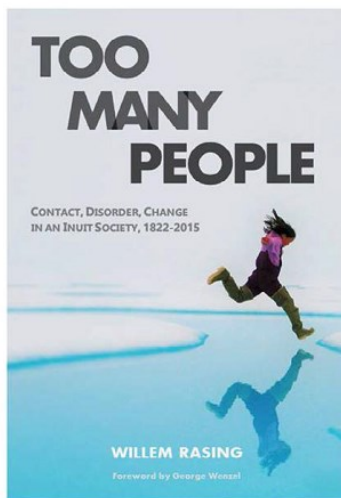
NAC Media has also appreciated the importance of an archive to support writers and scholarship. As Nunavut does not currently have a territorial archive, NAC Media is working to develop a digital archive and is undertaking the digitization of oral histories, documents, videos, and photographs from



### Nunavut Arctic College Revitalizes its Press continued

By: Sean Guistini

across the territory. In addition NAC Media is working with its own Igloolik Oral History Project to reimagine the possibilities of this rare collection of Elder interviews.

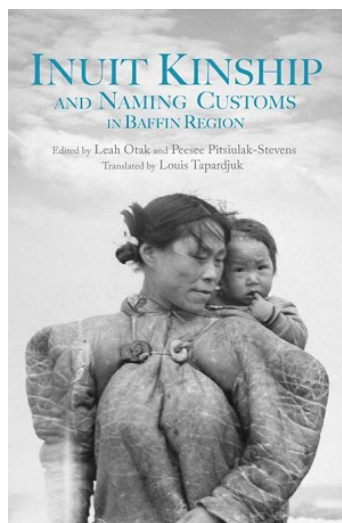


NAC's spring 2016 catalogue presents its newest offerings. These include a new edition of Wim Rasing's *Too Many People: Contact, Disorder, Change in an Inuit Society, 1822-2015*. This is a sweeping history which chronicles the effects of contact and order in Igloolik. The Dictionary of Utkuhiksalngmiut Inuktitut Postbase Suffixes is a staggering book that Jean Briggs developed over fifty years. Along with co-editors Alana Johns and Conor Cook, Briggs painstakingly details the Inuit dialect of the Utkuhiksalngmiut. In "The Caribou Taste Different Now": Inuit Elders Observe Climate Change, 145 Elders from across eight Inuit communities offer their knowledge and observations. This book, full of beautiful colour imagery, adds unique insight on climate change. NAC introduces the first two editions in the Hunter Education Series, *Hunting Seal in the Summer* and *Hunting Caribou in the Fall*. These books and videos are a partnership between Department on Environment, NAC, and local Hunters and Trappers Associations. These projects, focussed on supporting new hunters, will continue with different species across the Nunavut.

NAC Media has also reannounced two recent titles. *Inuit Kinship and Naming Customs in Baffin Region* presents interviews from the Igloolik Oral History project to teach the reader about a system of kinship and family terms known as *tuqlurausiit* – an important but forgotten custom of addressing relatives by nicknames. NAC staff Andrea Burry edited *Tukisigiaruti Timittiarngnirmut: Health Glossary for Nunavut Educators*. This comprehensive re-

source provides simple but accurate definitions for over 200 health-science terms. Each term includes suggested Inuktitut translations in both Roman orthography and syllabics from three communities in Nunavut: Gjoa Haven, Baker Lake, and Clyde River.

NAC Media is currently working on a collection of essays in memory of Leah Aksaajuq Otak, entitled *Inuit Oral History and Representation*, wherein an impressive list of contributors reflect on Leah's role in their respective research projects. The next hunt to support the forthcoming Hunter Education edition is planned for early August, and another book from the Inuit Oral History Project is underway.



NAC Media has also re-engaged scholars to create new editions in the *Interviewing Inuit Elders* series and *Inuit Perspectives* on the 20th Century series.

Looking forward, NAC Media is working to include more Inuit writers and to support a stronger writing and research culture in Nunavut. At the same time NAC Media will continue to seek southern partnerships to continue the work of fusing Inuit oral tradition with Western written custom. With more eyes looking up to Nunavut inspired by discussions of climate change, resource extraction, and global security, NAC Media feels a duty to better inform Canadians and the world about the historical and contemporary realities in Nunavut.

For more information on NAC Media visit: [www.nacmedia.ca](http://www.nacmedia.ca)



### Connecting Science with Society – Step by step

By: Kristina Baer and Annette Scheepstra

**Coinciding with the Arctic Science Summit Week 2016, the second EU-PolarNet General Assembly brought together the members of the Horizon2020 funded Coordination and Support Action in Fairbanks, Alaska. One of EU-PolarNet's tasks is to draft EUs polar research agenda including social science and humanities. With one year into the project and four years to go, a timely occasion to both look back at what has been achieved so far and to look ahead towards upcoming tasks and challenges.**

Submitted deliverables, the consortium's increasing visibility, international cooperation efforts and the contribution to upcoming EU funded polar calls – the morning session of the second EU-PolarNet General Assembly on March 13th 2016 started off with a review of the project's first year. With most of the tasks on track and a satisfied European Commission in the back, the consortium members could look back on a productive initiating phase. Yet, major tasks are still ahead, in particular the engagement of polar stakeholders and the prioritisation of polar research topics.

One of the project's main objectives is to co-design a European integrated polar research programme with polar stakeholders – a task that has also been highlighted in Integrated European Union Policy for the Arctic, which was released on 27th April 2016 and which referred to EU-PolarNet as a "central plank of the EU's Arctic efforts". A sustained and on-going dialogue is therefore needed, in order to identify, which research areas are of immediate relevance for policy makers, local communities, industries, NGOs and the European society at large. Stakeholder engagement and the identification of research priorities were thus topics dominating the assembly, especially during the open afternoon session.



Photo credits: Kristina Baer/EU-PolarNet

Just five days prior to the meeting the project's public consultation on a report on polar research priorities had ended. In the months leading up to the General Assembly consortium members had compiled a set of European research priorities for the Polar Regions, based on 146 reports of national Polar strategies, international consortia and major scientific clusters. The survey was meant to allow people from the wider science community and interested stakeholders to state, if they felt that their national priorities were well reflected and if societal challenges had been addressed adequately. In total 236 people from 23 countries gave their feedback on the compilation – an input that is currently still evaluated and will be taken into consideration, when the report is revised in the upcoming weeks.



Dr. Gertrude Saxinger  
Photo credits: Alfred-Wegener-Institut

Another report that was presented on the day was a Stakeholder Map – a document listing a wide range of individuals and organisations that do hold a stake in the Polar Regions. Although the map will be complemented and amended over the months and years to come, it does form the onset of EU-PolarNet's stakeholder engagement. Together with the report on research priorities it also served as a starting point for an interactive exercise during the General Assembly: The participants were prompted to identify research areas that could be of interest for stakeholders and – in a second step – to phrase research questions, which are likely to be directly relevant to different stakeholder groups. The meeting thus concluded with a collection of insightful suggestions on stakeholder relevant research topics and associated questions.

### Connecting Science with Society – Step by step continued

By: Kristina Baer and Annette Scheepstra



Photo credits: Alfred-Wegener-Institut

The General Assembly, however, was not the only opportunity to get involved in EU-PolarNet and its stakeholder efforts during the ASSW2016. Just a day before the assembly, the Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme (AMAP), a member of the consortium, had organised the project's first stakeholder workshop. Themed "Arctic Health and Well-being Research Needs" the workshop convened more

### SHWG IASC Report

By: Gail Fondahl

The Social and Human Sciences Working Group (SHWG) of the International Arctic Science Committee (IASC) held its annual meeting on 12 and 13 March, at the recent ASSW 2016 meeting in Fairbanks. In attendance were: Gail Fondahl (Canada, Chair), Peter Sköld (Sweden, Vice Chair), Hiroki Takakura (Japan, Vice Chair), Peter Schweitzer (Austria, Past Chair), Pelle Tejsner (Denmark), Arja Rautio (Finland), Lassi Heininen (Finland), Joachim Otto Habeck (Germany), Alexander Proelss (Germany), Joan Nymand Larsen (Iceland), Akiho Shibata (Japan), Dongmin Jin (South Korea), Peter Jordan (The Netherlands), Halvor Dannevig (Norway), Michal Luszczuk (Poland), Andrey Petrov (USA), Andrian Vlachov (IASC Fellow 2015) and Justiina Dahl (IASC Fellow 2016). Unfortunately representatives from China, Czech Republic, France, India, Russia, Spain and the UK were not able to attend.

Over the past year, SHWG has supported the following activities, mostly in the form of financial support for the participation of Early Career Researchers, and/or for attendance by SHWG members:

- Workshop on "Improved Health Knowledge in the

than 50 participants with expertise or interest in health related topics. Triggered by the input of brief presentations given by a range of experts, discussions arose around topics that need further research efforts and on the importance of involving Arctic residents, especially indigenous people, in the identification of the types of research that are needed, the methods used and the conduct of the work. The workshop was thus a successful start to the series of similar events that are to follow. The next stakeholder workshop will take place at the ICES Annual Science Conference in Riga in September and will focus on Research Needs on Arctic Ecosystems and Ecosystem Services.

For more information about EU-PolarNet and the above outlined projects, please visit the EU-PolarNet website (<http://www.eu-polarnet.eu/>) and sign up for the EU-PolarNet newsletter (<http://www.eu-polarnet.eu/news-and-events/newsletter.html>).

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Arctic – The Question of Missing Data" (Oulu, 11 June 2015)

- Special Session on "Resources, Quality of Life and Sustainable Development in the Arctic" at the International Geographical Union Regional Conference (Moscow, 17-21 August 2015)

- Workshop on "Building Arctic Resilience" (Reykjavik, 14-15 October 2015; and upcoming, Inari and Tromsø, May/June 2016)

- Workshop on "Infrastructure in the Arctic (and Elsewhere) as a Social and Ecological Challenge," (Vienna 15-16 January 2016)

- Synthesis and Feedback Workshop on "Adaptation Options in the Barents Region" (Bodø, 13-14 January 2016)

- Workshop on "Gender Asymmetry in Northern Communities: Perspectives from the Margins", (Küstrin, Germany, 25-28 January 2016)

- Conference, "A European Arctic Policy: The Role of EU Non-Arctic Member States" (Madrid, upcoming, 10 June 2016)

- X Siberian Studies Conference, "Passion for Life: Emotions and Feelings in the North and Siberia", (St Petersburg, upcoming, 24-26 October 2016)



### SHWG IASC Report continued

By: Gail Fondahl

Peter Sköld (Swedish representative) provided an update on plans for ICASS IX. Peter Pulsifer (Chair, Data Committee of Sustaining Arctic Observing Networks) provided information about SAON, and noted potential opportunities for the SHWG to work with observatory networks.

During a joint IASC Working Group session prior to the SHWG meeting, Chairs of each WG provided a brief overview of potential crosscutting ideas for further discussion. (Cross-cutting initiatives are those involving at least three of IASC's Working Groups (WGs)). At the SHWG meeting these cross-cutting ideas were further discussed, in terms of potential for social sciences and humanities involvement. Several representatives from other WGs attended our meeting, while some of our members volunteered to attend other WG meetings to participate in other relevant crosscutting discussions and report back to the SHWG.

Two cross-cutting initiatives received special attention as ones which SHWG wished to lead or take a major role in:

- One on **Infrastructure**; this would build on both the "Rapid Arctic Transitions due to Infrastructure and Climate" (RATIC) initiative, led by Skip Walker of IASC's Terrestrial WG, and on an "Infrastructure in the Arctic (and Elsewhere) as a Social and Ecological Challenge", led by Peter Schweitzer. Since the meeting, members of the SHWG have provided input to a cross-cutting proposal, "Sustainable Arctic Infrastructure Forum" (SAIF), led by Skip Walker, and now submitted for consideration for IASC cross-cutting funding.
- A second one, on **Long-term Perspectives on Arctic Socio-ecological Systems**, which would develop a better understanding of human-ecosystem interactions over the long durée, through investigations of adaptations and adjustments in relation to climate change over millennia, and also of cumulative human impacts on Arctic ecosystems. Peter Jordan is leading the development of this proposal, which will be submitted for consideration for

IASC cross-cutting funding.

Members who attended other WG meetings reported back on their development of cross-cutting proposals.

The next agenda item involved finalizing criteria by which to evaluate proposals submitted to it for 'internal' funding; these had been discussed and prioritized by members via email in the weeks leading up to the ASSW 2016 meeting. Discussion then moved on to revising SHWG cross-cutting scientific foci. Internal and cross-cutting scientific foci had been sent in 2011; the internal foci had been revisited and revised in 2015; at the 2016 meeting, the cross-cutting foci were considered and revised. The foci are used for priority setting in SHWG activities; they may be found at: <http://iasc.info/working-groups/social-human>.

SHWG members discussed strategic direction of the SHWG, in the context the draft reports from the IASC Review and the Third International Conference on Arctic Research Planning (ICARP III) presented on the first day of the meeting at a plenary session. Due to scheduling, this conversation took place prior to the IASC Council meeting, at which strategic planning for IASC at a whole was on the agenda. Assuming that outcome of the council meeting would be that each WG would be asked to develop a work plan, SHWG discussed issues surrounding the process.

You are encouraged to contact your country representative if you have ideas, initiatives, questions, etc. and would like to engage further with IASC SHWG. The names and emails of all members can be found at: <http://iasc.info/working-groups/social-human/members>.

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### Coming In the Next Issue of *Northern Notes*...

- Presentation of the proposed sessions at ICASS IX, 2017
- Report from the inaugural UArctic Congress, St. Petersburg, Russia

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### IASC SYMPOSIUM 'DO WE SPEAK THE SAME LANGUAGE OF SCIENCE?'

By: Malgorzata (Gosia) Smieszek, IASC Fellow, Arctic Centre, University of Lapland

For long time one of the most easily discernible trends in research programs and funding has been strive for interdisciplinarity - proposals and projects relating to more than one academic discipline or branch of knowledge. Such interdisciplinary research, involving researchers from different schools of thought along with their specific perspectives and conceptual frameworks has been pursued to address complex problems, which cannot be effectively explained and tackled by representatives of solely one discipline. Yet, despite strong incentives for bringing together scholars from various branches of science, effective interdisciplinary research still often remains uneasy - both within Arctic and broader scientific community. To attend to this challenge the aim of the Symposium "Do we speak the same language of science?" was to facilitate dialogue about effective means of communication and collaboration between representatives of humanities, social and natural sciences. The event took place during the Arctic Science Summit Week ASSW 2016 in Fairbanks, Alaska and it was organized and chaired by the International Arctic Science Committee (IASC) Fellow, Malgorzata (Gosia) Smieszek from IASC Social & Human Sciences Working Group (SHWG). It came also with support from the International Arctic Social Sciences Association (IASSA) and the University of the Arctic (UArctic). In the symposium, set up to foster IASC crosscutting activities, the invited speakers both from IASC Working Groups and beyond spoke on research methods, challenges and limitations of their respective science disciplines and discussed with the audience the best practices for the pursuit of interdisciplinary research in the Arctic.



In her introductory remarks the Chair spoke about the notion of language - the primary tool of communication - and how learning, or at least attempting to comprehend languages of other branches and disciplines of science can endorse interdisciplinary research and scientific efforts seeking to account for transformational biophysical and social changes we observe in the Arctic. However, where-

as today social sciences have their due position among polar sciences and are considered essential to our understanding of reshaping of the region, this has not always been the case and in particular not in much natural science focused IASC. To explain this evolution, the first keynote speaker Louwrens Hacquebord, the founding chair of IASC SHWG, recalled beginnings and developments that led to gradual recognition of social sciences as polar sciences within IASC as well as to establishing a formal partnership with IASSA to increase the cooperation between two organizations.

Next, in the first part of the session invited speakers were asked to address in their presentations the following questions:

- What is the main object of research?
- What constitutes the valid sources?
- What is the research approach/method?
- What are the research limitations?
- What are the research challenges?
- What possible benefits the discipline can bring to interdisciplinary projects?

The panel comprised of four speakers - Thomas Spengler (University of Bergen, Chair of IASC Atmosphere WG), Sandra Starkweather (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, NOAA), Peter Schweitzer (University of Vienna) and Susan Barr (Directorate for Cultural Heritage Norway, President of IASC) who spoke about how above listed issues of data collection, research limitations etc. look respectively from the perspective of atmospheric science (modeling and observations), cultural anthropology and history.

The second part of the symposium was dedicated to best practices in pursuit of interdisciplinary research in the Arctic, but also to relations of science and policy-making and traditional ecological knowledge. The keynote speaker to this section, Thomas Armstrong, chair of the Arctic Council project *Adaptation Actions for a Changing Arctic* (AACA), addressed means for effective connection of science and decision-making, essential in developing responses and adaptation actions in the Arctic. Henry Huntington (Huntington Consulting, Eagle River, Alaska) shared his experience of incorporating local and traditional knowledge in the Bering Sea project, Joachim Otto Habeck (University of Hamburg) offered insights from his work with the International Permafrost (IPA) Association Action "Permafrost and Culture" and the workshop that they held in Yakutsk, Russia in July 2015 and Nicole Kanayurak (Inuit Circumpolar Council ICC-Alaska Youth Representative) talked about the work of ICC for collaborative partnerships between holders of traditional knowledge and scientists.

### IASC SYMPOSIUM 'DO WE SPEAK THE SAME LANGUAGE OF SCIENCE?' continued

By: Malgorzata (Gosia) Smieszek, IASC Fellow, Arctic Centre, University of Lapland

In sum, the *Symposium Do we speak the same language of science?* was a very well-attended event that clearly showed the importance and great interest in the discussed matters. Many of the topics it raised continued in debates later throughout the ASSW week, among others, in the workshop *Re-framing Understandings of the North: Placing Social Sciences and Humanities at the Center of Interdisci-*

*plinary Arctic Research Meeting* that took place on March 14, 2016 and was organized jointly by the University of Alaska Anchorage, IASSA, IASC and the UArctic.

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### The 2016 Arctic Observing Summit – the Process and Path Forward

By: Jane Wolken (International Arctic Research Center, University of Alaska Fairbanks); Olivia Lee (International Arctic Research Center, University of Alaska Fairbanks); and Gabriela Iburguchi (International Study of Arctic Change (ISAC), Arctic Institute of North America, University of Calgary)

The Arctic is rapidly becoming altered in response to unprecedented contemporary climate and anthropogenic changes. Since the Arctic is a key component of the larger Earth system, changes in the Arctic have significant social, economic and political impacts at local, regional and global scales. Arctic observing activities thus far have focused on monitoring the physical, biological and chemical components of the Arctic. However, with Arctic Peoples residing at the forefront of climate change there is a need to incorporate Indigenous Knowledge and community-based monitoring into Arctic observing activities. A comprehensive, sustained and coordinated Arctic observing system is required to develop and implement adaptation and mitigation strategies both in the Arctic and at lower latitudes, and to guide future sustainable development in the Arctic.

The Arctic Observing Summit (AOS; [www.arcticobservingsummit.org](http://www.arcticobservingsummit.org)) is an international, biennial forum of scientists, agencies, Indigenous Peoples' organizations, Arctic community members and the private sector. The goal of the AOS is to coordinate the design, development and implementation of an international, comprehensive and sustained pan-Arctic observing system. The development and planning of the AOS is led by the International Study of Arctic Change (ISAC) in partnership with the Sustained Arctic Observing Networks (SAON) initiative and local organizers. The AOS is an outreach event of SAON, which is co-led by the Arctic Council via the Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme (AMAP) and the International Arctic Science Committee (IASC).

The 3rd biennial Arctic Observing Summit was held in Fairbanks (15-18 March, 2016) in conjunction with the 2016 Arctic Science Summit Week (ASSW; [www.assw2016.org](http://www.assw2016.org)). Based on the recom-

mendations from the previous AOS in 2013 and 2014, the following six thematic working groups were established and populated by members of the Arctic observing community with expertise relevant to the themes (details and members available at [www.arcticobservingsummit.org/aos-2016-theme-descriptions](http://www.arcticobservingsummit.org/aos-2016-theme-descriptions)):

1. International and national strategies for sustained support of long-term Arctic observing;
2. Technology and innovation for sustained Arctic observations;
3. Contributions of the private sector and industry to sustained Arctic observations;
4. Actor and stakeholder engagement and needs in sustained Arctic observations;
5. Arctic observations in the context of global observing initiatives; and
6. Interfacing Indigenous Knowledge, community-based monitoring and scientific methods for sustained Arctic observations.

Community white papers (<http://www.arcticobservingsummit.org/aos-2016-white-papers-and-short-statements-public>) and poster presentations ([www.arcticobservingsummit.org/aos-2016-poster-abstracts-public](http://www.arcticobservingsummit.org/aos-2016-poster-abstracts-public)) were then solicited for the six themes outlined above. The members of the thematic working groups, AOS executive organizing committee and ISAC program office met periodically via teleconferencing to develop the theme descriptions ([www.arcticobservingsummit.org/aos-2016-theme-descriptions](http://www.arcticobservingsummit.org/aos-2016-theme-descriptions)), review the white papers, co-produce a synthesis paper based on the relevant white papers and poster abstracts, and develop a structure for the thematic break-out and cross-theme discussions at the summit. The white papers and synthesis papers ([www.arcticobservingsummit.org/aos-2016-synthesis-documents-and-products](http://www.arcticobservingsummit.org/aos-2016-synthesis-documents-and-products)) were made



### The 2016 Arctic Observing Summit – the Process and Path Forward continued

By: Jane Wolken (International Arctic Research Center, University of Alaska Fairbanks); Olivia Lee (International Arctic Research Center, University of Alaska Fairbanks); and Gabriela Iburguchi (International Study of Arctic Change (ISAC), Arctic Institute of North America, University of Calgary)

publicly available prior to the 2016 AOS to encourage participants to engage in the thematic break-out and cross-theme discussions during the summit, and to aid in preliminary identification of key issues and recommendations within each theme.

At the AOS 2016, over 450 delegates from 25 or more countries met through a series of plenary presentations, thematic break-out and cross-theme discussions, and poster presentations to discuss and develop recommendations and an implementation plan for an internationally supported, pan-Arctic observing system that incorporates local, regional and global needs. The following seven major recommendations outlined in the conference statement ([www.arcticobservingsummit.org/aos-2016-conference-statement-0](http://www.arcticobservingsummit.org/aos-2016-conference-statement-0)) emerged from the 2016 AOS:

1) **Develop** international principles and protocols that establish ethical guidelines for research, for the involvement of Arctic Indigenous Knowledge holders, for the use of Indigenous Knowledge and the co-production of knowledge. Develop mechanisms to enable collaborative approaches and building of trust among partners, such as researchers, Indigenous Peoples, private sector entities and others, to define observational needs, and to plan, prioritize, implement, and use sustained observations.

2) **Propose** to the highest levels of government, the business case for a comprehensive pan-Arctic observing system. This proposal should assess the costs and demonstrate the benefits for society at various levels, including an Implementation Plan that builds upon the present system and past planning, and that identifies needed resources including infrastructure, instrumentation, human capacity, the pathways to financing, and a strategy for sustained financing.

3) **Create** opportunities for stakeholder engagement as a critical component of an effective pan-Arctic observing system that includes strategies for improved communication, takes advantage of existing natural capital, creates avenues for research collaboration, identifies resources for capacity building and participation of local and Indigenous knowledge holders, and resolve jurisdictional, regulation and policy hindrances to active participation.

4) **Coordinate** the implementation of a pan-Arctic observing system with regional and global observing initiatives, and organize efforts in securing resources for its sustained operation through the leadership of the SAON initiative.

5) **Advance** a strategy for international funding, ideally with a single application and review process and contributions of resources from all partner countries, along with established national support mechanisms. Full implementation of a pan-Arctic

Observing System requires coordination of funding efforts to support a globally connected and internationally accessible network.

6) **Prioritize**, on an ongoing basis, observations that should be started and maintained over the long-term by operational and other relevant agencies. Collaborative, sustained observations need to be implemented through a combined research-operational system that extends across all scales relevant to those it serves, making use of both long-term national/institutional funding and of project based competitive funding.

7) **Work**, through the IASC-SAON Arctic Data Committee, to develop a broad, globally connected Arctic observing data and information system of systems that is based on open access data and standards, in addition to recognizing and addressing ethical use and proprietary rights of Indigenous Knowledge and that delivers value to Arctic and global communities.

The 2016 AOS was a success. This meeting brought together Arctic researchers, residents and stakeholders to discuss tractable actions for future Arctic observation activities. The 2016 AOS Final Report is currently being developed, and will include the specific recommendations of the six thematic working groups. The AOS conference statement and revised synthesis papers are available on the public access AOS website, and the AOS report will be included upon completion. With SAON's renewed commitment to coordinating the implementation of a pan-Arctic observing system, the fourth AOS scheduled for 2018 should be highly productive and will build on the above recommendations.

The dates and location of the AOS 2018 will be announced at [www.arcticobservingsummit.org](http://www.arcticobservingsummit.org).

The planning of the 2016 AOS was co-led by the AOS Executive Organizing Committee, including Hajo Eicken (International Arctic Research Center, University of Alaska Fairbanks), Maribeth Murray (Executive Director of the International Study of Arctic Change, based at the Arctic Institute of North America), Larry Hinzman (University of Alaska Fairbanks), Eva Krümmel (Inuit Circumpolar Council, Canada), Peter Schlosser (Earth Institute, Columbia University), Volker Rachold (International Arctic Science Committee, Germany), Jan Rene Larsen (Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Program/SAON Secretariat, Norway), and Hiroyuki Enomoto (National Institute of Polar Research, Japan).

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### The notion of 'traditional food' in contemporary West Greenland - a Master student project

By: Daniella Dukes, Ben-Gurion University, Israel

Only in my sweetest dreams would I have imagined that the twisting path that is my life would lead me back to Greenland. And yet, here I am, once again. In 2002, my parents made the (some would say) bizarre decision to temporarily move to Greenland from Israel. "What? Greenland?" People exclaimed in disbelief when we relayed the news. I nodded and waved goodbye to my high-school friends, trying to imagine what to expect once I would arrive in the land of ice and snow. Inspired by our Chinese heritage, my parents opened up a Chinese restaurant in the town of Sisimiut, using local Greenlandic raw products as the base for some wonderful and authentic Chinese cooking. They chose to name the restaurant Misigisaq, which means 'experience' in Kalaallisut. Little did I know to what extent this word would represent my time in Greenland. I also did not expect to make lifelong friendships. This is the true magic of Greenland – their people, their Inuit. They are what make me call Kalaallit Nunaat home.

I am currently studying for my Master's in anthropology, and I have decided on the focus of my research project: the notion of 'traditional food' in contemporary West Greenland. Specifically, what is deemed as 'traditional food' in Greenlanders' eyes? How do modern Greenlanders apply their perceptions of tradition, in terms of action and identity construction? Are activities concerning kalaalimerngit (traditional Greenlandic foods) i.e. subsistence hunting and gathering and other food practices, day-to-day acts, or do these serve as symbolic practices linked to a core Inuit identity, occurring only during a specialised ritual or celebration outside of the everyday? The confluence of an indigenous and/or a postcolonial-national identity with consuming 'traditional' foods will also be explored.

Very little recent ethnographic documentation questions Greenlanders' narratives, lived experiences or perceptions of change on kalaalimerngit. My study endeavours to contribute a current, detailed ethnography, based on extensive fieldwork and employment of qualitative research methods, which will allow an in-depth understanding of how modern-day Greenlanders engage with kalaalimerngit, in terms of practice and cultural perception. Since culturally sensitive and intimate worldviews need to be openly discussed, and since my friends see me as somewhat of a native myself, perhaps due to my past and my knowledge of Danish and Greenlandic, I am thankful to many of my friends, who have agreed to help answer my research questions.

Last year, in the fall of 2015, after 10 years of absence, I returned to Greenland in order to begin my ethnographic fieldwork. I nostalgically wandered the streets and mountains of my adolescence in Sisimiut, and was acquainted with a whole new city, the capital city of Nuuk. Following this trip, I decided that the focus of my upcoming round of fieldwork should be Nuuk. This city fits the research's

requirements for male and female urban Greenlandic adults, with perceptions that signify a changing global context.



A family gathers crowberries and blueberries in the fjord of Qooqut. (September, 2015)

Five weeks alone have granted me insight on kalaalimerngit's importance in a Greenlandic's daily routine as well as when and how it is eaten. Curiously, almost all the research participants have an identical daily meal pattern. Additionally, 'Western' snacks (like chips and chocolate) would be casually eaten in front of the TV, whereas dried fish and mattak (whale blubber) received a more respectable setting and were eaten at a table with one's closest and dearest. Birthday kaffimiks, which I remember from my teenage years as modest events with cake, coffee and perhaps some dried fish, have become festive and elaborate 3-course meal spreads of "anything kalaalimerngit", as one of my hosts declared proudly, a culinary event friends and family really look forward to, which includes interesting dishes like slow-roasted, self-caught reindeer with Béarnaise sauce and narwhal mattak sushi. These examples exhibit change and global trends in 'traditional' Greenlandic foods.

Furthermore, though time-consuming, physically challenging and expensive, I witnessed the dedication that went into organising pastime hunting trips, and discovered that these hold special meaning for Greenlanders; they serve as a platform for social bonding, and represent pride of self-subsistence and partaking in a centuries-old Inuit tradition.

By delving into the methods with which 'traditional foods' are constructed in local thought and the perceived meaning and significance of obtaining, eating and 'acting out' kalaalimerngit, I hope to further the understanding of hunting practices in a modern-day setting, present the possible revival of an indigenous-national Greenlandic identity through food traits, and demonstrate the hybridity of traditional customs due to processes of globalisation and change. My approach is holistic, examining community, culture, tradition, identity, values and Greenlandic character as a whole, in a rapidly changing and modernising world.



## 20 YEARS ARCTIC COUNCIL THE STATE AND FUTURE OF INTERNATIONAL LAW AND SECURITY AROUND THE NORTH POLE

On **11-12 October 2016**, the new research unit **RAS at the Law Department of the University of Southern Denmark (SDU)** will together with **SDU's Centre for War Studies** convene a 2-day conference to explore the future of the Arctic Council. RAS focuses on questions exploring the enforcement of international law in the Arctic and on the high seas. The four conference panels will address Arctic questions of international law, law of the sea, international politics and human rights seen from an Arctic Council perspective.

### CALL FOR PAPERS

On 19 September 1996, the governments of Canada, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Russia, Sweden and the US agreed on the Ottawa Declaration in order to establish a high-level forum for the "cooperation, coordination and interaction (...) on common Arctic issues." At the time, the establishment of this new body attracted interest mainly among Arctic specialists and scientists while the Washington Post reported on its back pages about the creation of an "international panel" to "protect native people [and] wildlife."

Today, biennial meetings of the Council see political heavyweights such as the US Secretary of State and the Russian Foreign Minister travelling to far away places such as Iqaluit, Kiruna and Fairbanks. What is more, countries like China and Germany regularly attend these meetings and the European Union keeps hoping it will be awarded observer status.

This conference will take stock of the accomplishments, challenges and future prospects of the Arctic Council. With a particular focus on international legal aspects and political issues, academic experts and stakeholders will explore whether the Council has lived up to its commitment to the well-being of the inhabitants of the Arctic, the protection of the Arctic environment and sustainable development and whether it is ready to oversee and coordinate the consequences of climate change for the Arctic both when it comes to its people, wildlife, resources and security.

The discussions will be organized in four panels addressing different aspects of the Arctic Council's role and future. The conference will bring together Danish, Greenlandic and international researchers,

government officials, policy makers and civil society. We invite abstracts to address any of the following four topics which each will form the background for one conference panel each:

**Panel 1:** the Arctic Council as soft law creation and creator: softly sledding towards solutions or disaster? What is the role of international law and enforcement of international law in the Arctic? What pressing needs continue to exist now that there will be no overall Arctic treaty?

**Panel 2:** the Arctic Council and the Arctic Ocean: heading for disaster or a bright and sustainable future? Do we need another Ilulissat Declaration or more law to address the Arctic challenges?

**Panel 3:** the Arctic Council as facilitator of Arctic cooperation: has it improved relations between Arctic states and non-state actors? Are the principles for membership still relevant and viable? And should the Council begin to play a role in security matters?

**Panel 4:** Arctic indigenous peoples and their role in the Arctic Council: do permanent participants have a special place but no implications for international law? This was the starting point of the Ottawa Declaration – what are the lessons learnt and the challenges ahead?

Abstracts should be no longer than **250 words** and indicate which panel the presenter intends to join; the title of the presentation; the presenter's name, affiliation and email address. We also encourage PhD candidates and other early career researchers to apply.

Abstracts must be sent to **Martin Mennecke** ([AC20conference@sam.sdu.dk](mailto:AC20conference@sam.sdu.dk)) no later than **30 May 2016**. The authors of successful abstracts will be contacted by the end of June and required to submit their paper of max. 8,000 words, footnotes included, by **26 September 2016**. A selection of conference papers will be published in an edited volume or a special journal issue.

A limited number of funding grants to cover travel and accommodation expenses may be available in special circumstances.

\* \* \* \* \*



## Up Coming Conferences, Events & Workshops

June 6 - 9, 2016

### The 4th China-Nordic Arctic Cooperation Symposium (CNARC)

Rovaniemi, Finland

<http://www.cnarc.info/>

4th China-Nordic Arctic Cooperation Symposium will take place in Rovaniemi, at the Arctic Centre, University of Lapland, under the theme "The Sustainable Arctic - Opportunities and Challenges of Globalization".

June 20 - 24, 2016

### 11th International Conference on Permafrost (ICOP 2016)

Potsdam, Germany

<http://icop2016.org/>

The 11th International Conference on Permafrost (ICOP 2016) will be held in Potsdam, Germany, 20-24 June 2016. The conference aims at covering all relevant aspects of permafrost research, engineering and outreach on a global and regional level.

August 21 - 25, 2016

### The 33rd International Geographical Congress 2016

Beijing, China.

[www.igc2016.org](http://www.igc2016.org)

You are cordially invited to participate in the International Geographical Union Cold Region Environments Commission (IGU CRE) Sessions at The 33rd International Geographical Congress <<Shaping Our Harmonious World>> 21-25 August, Beijing, China.

September 12 - 16, 2016

### UArctic Congress

St Petersburg, Russia

<http://www.uarctic.org/about-uarctic/events/uarctic-congress-2016/>

The first ever UArctic Congress will take place in Saint Petersburg, Russia from September 12-16, 2016. Hosted by Saint Petersburg State University, the inaugural UArctic Congress 2016 will feature Science and Meetings.



### Attention: Conference & Workshop Participants

The editors of the *Northern Notes* are always wanting to hear from participants who have attended conferences and workshops relating to the international social sciences. If you've recently attended a workshop or conference and want to tell us about your experiences, please e-mail **Gabriella Nordin**, IASSA Secretary at [gabriella.nordin@umu.se](mailto:gabriella.nordin@umu.se)



**Northern Notes**

Issue 45 (Spring/Summer 2016)

- page 20 -

## Up Coming Conferences, Events & Workshops continued

September 27 - 29, 2016 «NATURAL RESOURCES and INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT of COASTAL AREAS in the ARCTIC ZONE»

Arkhangelsk, Russia

[Conference call in PDF](#)

The Federal Research Center for Integrated Studies of the Arctic – FRC ISArctic (which is currently having been formed on the basis of the Arkhangelsk Scientific Center of the Ural branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences) hereby announces the outset for registration to the Second international scientific conference «NATURAL RESOURCES and INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT of COASTAL AREAS in the ARCTIC ZONE» (Conference), which is to be held on 27–29 September, 2016 in Arkhangelsk.

October 5 - 9, 2016

9th Polar Law Symposium

Akureyri & Reykjavík, Iceland

The Faculty of Law at the University of Akureyri, Iceland, cordially invites submissions of abstracts for papers to be presented at the 9th Polar Law Symposium. The theme of the symposium is The Role of Law in Polar Governance.

October 6 - 8, 2016

9th International Conference of the Circumpolar Agricultural Association

Reykjavik, Iceland

<http://www.caa2016.com/>

The 9th Circumpolar Agricultural Conference will be held in Reykjavik Iceland 6th to 8th October 2016. The overall theme of the conference will be the role of agriculture in the circumpolar bioeconomy.

October 7 - 9, 2016

20th Biennial Inuit Studies Conference

St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador

<http://www.mun.ca/isc2016/>

Inuit traditions are a repository of Inuit culture and a primary expression of Inuit identity. The theme for the 2016 Inuit Studies Conference invites Elders, knowledge-bearers, researchers, artists, policy-makers, students and others to engage in conversations about the many ways in which traditions shape understanding, while registering social and cultural change.

June 8 - 12, 2017

The International Congress of Arctic Social Sciences ICASS IX

Umeå, Sweden

<http://iassa.org/icass-ix>

The International Congress of Arctic Social Sciences (ICASS) is held every three years and is hosted by the university holding the IASSA Secretariat. 2014 - 2017 The Arctic Research Centre (ARCUM) at Umeå University is holding the IASSA Secretariat and will consequently host ICASS IX at Umeå University Campus. ICASS IX's theme is People & Place.



Northern Notes

Issue 45 (Spring/Summer 2016)

- page 21 -

## Recent Conferences & Workshops

### ARCUM researchers coordinating a new book on rural tourism

By: Doris Carson

ARCUM (Arctic Research Centre at Umeå University) member Doris Carson and Rhonda Koster from Lakehead University in Thunder Bay (Canada) are editing a book comparing rural tourism in different geographic regions of Sweden, Canada and Australia. The book, titled "The Exotic, the Fringe, and the Boring Bits in Between: New Perspectives on Rural Tourism Geographies", will bring together a diverse group of international researchers with expertise in rural tourism development. Contributing authors include Dieter Müller (Umeå University, Sweden); Linda Lundmark (Umeå University, Sweden); Kajsa Åberg (Umeå University, Sweden); Albina Pashkevich (Dalarna University, Sweden); Patrick Brouder (Brock University, ON, Canada); Harvey Lemelin (Lakehead University, ON, Canada); Dean Carson (Charles Darwin University, Australia); and Bruce Prideaux (Central Queensland University, Australia).

The aim of the book is to provide a theoretical framework that explains how and why different types of rural destinations face different opportunities and constraints when it comes to tourism development. The framework will consider the particular spatial, historic, socio-economic, institutional and tourism-specific characteristics of rural destinations and compare a number of case studies across Sweden, Canada and Australia. The comparisons will show that not all rural tourism destinations are the same, and that both academics and practitioners have to take a more differentiated approach towards rural tourism development that considers specific rural contexts. For example, rural places closer to the urban-rural fringe, which rely on day visitors from nearby urban centres, experience different development opportunities and challenges than more remote 'exotic' destinations attracting national and international markets and political attention. In contrast, the 'boring bits in between' – places that are too far from major urban centres, but also not exotic enough to attract external attention and investment – often have to 'make tourism work' by capitalising on

transit travellers or other less obvious markets, such as people visiting friends and relatives or business travellers. While remote exotic destinations may develop into single-industry tourism hotspots, tourism in the 'boring bits' typically faces competition from other rural industries, and tourism at the fringe has to reconcile issues around sub-urban sprawl, gentrification and increasingly shorter tourist trips.



Examples like these and more were discussed over a 3-day workshop in Ammarnäs, Sorsele municipality, Sweden from 22-25 April. The contributors met to finalise the book outline and the various case studies, including examples from Västerbotten and Dalarna (Sweden), Ontario and Manitoba (Canada), and the Northern Territory and South Australia (Australia). The attached photo shows the group during a workshop break in front of the 'Potatisbacken' in Ammarnäs. (Photo – left to right: Rhonda Koster; Dean Carson; Albina Pashkevich; Dieter Müller; Patrick Brouder; Doris Carson; Kajsa Åberg; Bruce Prideaux).

\* \* \* \* \*



### ASSW 2017 – Call for Session Proposals

**Organizers of the Arctic Science Summit Week 2017 in Prague (Czech Republic) on 31 March – 7 April 2017 are now accepting session proposals for the ASSW 2017 Science Symposium, entitled "A Dynamic Arctic in Global Change". Deadline: June 30, 2016.**

The Science Symposium will be on **4-7 April 2017** and address the three sub-themes: (a) Changes in the Arctic, (b) Global Implications of Arctic Changes and (c) Impacts of Global Change on the Arctic. More information is available on the conference website at [www.assw2017.eu](http://www.assw2017.eu).

An online form to submit session proposals, including a brief session description, the contact information of the proposed session conveners and other session details and suggestions for the meeting, is available [here](#).

To facilitate the participation of early career scientists and indigenous peoples, the organizers recommend that each session proposal includes one early career scientist co-convenor and/or one indigenous co-convenor, if applicable. Session proposals should also consider the overall geographic and gender balance of the proposed co-convenors.

**The tasks of the conveners include:**

- soliciting submissions for their session;
- reviewing the abstracts submitted for the session;
- working with the Scientific Steering Committee to arrange the program of their session, including oral and poster presentations and chairing the session.

Depending on the session proposals received, the Scientific Steering Committee will possibly have to merge similar sessions.

Session proposal can be submitted until **30th June 2016**. Lead conveners will be notified in July

and the final list of sessions will be announced September 2016. **Abstract submission will open on 1st October 2016** with a submission deadline not earlier than 30th November 2016 and notification of acceptance after 15th January 2017.

Any questions should be directed to:  
[info@assw2017.eu](mailto:info@assw2017.eu)

**ASSW 2017 Scientific Steering Committee:**

*Josef Elster*, University of South Bohemia – Local Host, Conference Chair

*Alex Bernardova*, University of South Bohemia – Local Host, Conference Manager

*Renuka Badhe*, European Polar Board (EPB)

*Hanne Christiansen*, International Permafrost Association (IPA)

*Jim Drummond*, Forum of Arctic Research Operators (FARO)

*Sung-Ho Kang*, The Pacific Arctic Group (PAG)

*Kirsi Latola*, The University of the Arctic (UArctic)

*Maarten Loonen*, Ny-Ålesund Science Managers Committee (NySMAC)

*Vladimir Pavlenko*, International Arctic Science Committee (IASC)

*Volker Rachold*, International Arctic Science Committee (IASC) – ex officio

*Peter Sköld*, International Arctic Social Sciences Association (IASSA)

*Jannie Staffansson*, Arctic Council Indigenous Peoples Secretariat (IPS)

*Tun Jan Young*, Association of Polar Early Career Scientists (APECS)

\* \* \* \* \*



The Arctic Science Summit Week 2017  
31 March – 7 April 2017, Prague, Czech Republic



### Storytelling platform about gender issues across the Arctic

Tahnee Prior and Rachel Kohut are developing a storytelling platform about gender issues across the Arctic. This platform, Plan A, seeks to provide a space that fosters cross-border conversation in a region that is ever-changing and geographically challenging. Ultimately, Tahnee and Rachel hope that Plan A can match stories to existing research, while also identifying gaps in policy-making at the local, national and regional level. Soft launched early this year, Plan A aspires to grow from a single page on their website, to a list of board members and supporters, as well as a series of initial stories on why Plan A is needed by the end of 2016.

Interested in the initiative? Want to join the momentum and help us start connecting the dots? Have a story you would like to share? Email us at [planarctic@gmail.com](mailto:planarctic@gmail.com) to start the conversation.

To note, we are open to stories in any Arctic language, and all levels of participation and engagement. So whether you want to submit a piece in Russian, or have a series of photographs you would like to share, or simply want to send an email introducing us to someone you think we should speak to, we are all ears.

Check out our website and latest updates here: [www.genderisnotplanb.com](http://www.genderisnotplanb.com).

And to sign up for our newsletter, click on the following link: <http://eepurl.com/bQO9J1>.



### UArctic Congress 2016 September 12 - 16, 2016 in St. Petersburg, Russia

Register Now for the inaugural UArctic Congress!

For more information please visit [Uarctic website](http://uarctic.org/congress)

Hosted by Saint Petersburg State University, the UArctic Congress 2016 will feature Science and Meeting sections, including:

- Acclaimed keynote speakers and scientific experts presenting their latest research.
- Parallel sessions on an array of Arctic science, policy, and education topics.
- Formal meetings for representatives of the Council of UArctic and UArctic Rectors' Forum.
- Pre-Meetings to foster contacts and enhance networking.
- Opportunities for promoting and marketing your organization and activities.
- A UArctic Student Forum with workshops.
- A Cultural and Social program like no other.

The 2016 UArctic Rectors' Forum and the 19th annual meeting of the Council of UArctic form an integral part of the congress. See the [Congress program overview](#).

**Early bird** (375 €) registration deadline extended to **June 15th**.

**Late registration** (475 €) deadline **August 21st**.

A preliminary outline of the Science Section Program is available [here](#).  
Final program will be published by mid June.



### Save the Date - ReSDA 2016 Workshop in Ottawa, ON. Oct 26-28

#### Resources and Sustainable Development in the Arctic: New Relationships and New Possibilities



## Annual ReSDA Workshop October 26-28, 2016 Ottawa, ON



Mark your calendars for the next annual gathering and workshop of the Resources and Sustainable Development in the **Arctic (ReSDA) Network**. This is being planned for **October 26-28, 2016 in Ottawa, ON, CANADA**. The main focus of this event will be on discussions of past, present and future research of the ReSDA network and policy implications. We will also be including representatives from Government and National organizations to share in these discussions. This will be a research focused event with ReSDA and related projects highlighted. If you feel that this workshop is something that you would like to contribute to and participate in we would like to hear from

you. This will assist us with the planning in terms of arrangements for the facilities, catering and accommodation. We welcome any ideas/suggestions you might have for this event.

More details and a registration form will soon be available on the ReSDA website. If you have any questions about the upcoming workshop please contact Val Walker ([vwalker@yukoncollege.yk.ca](mailto:vwalker@yukoncollege.yk.ca))

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### \* \* \* \* \* **New IASSA e-mail list** \* \* \* \* \*

As of December 2015 the old IASSA.net e-mail list ceased to exist. To share information on the new list please send an e-mail to IASSA secretary Gabriella Nordin [gabriella.nordin@umu.se](mailto:gabriella.nordin@umu.se)

To subscribe or unsubscribe please visit:  
<http://iassa.org/home/iassa-listserver>



Please note that current members of the old IASSA.net list are already transferred to the new list

\* \* \* \* \*



### Introduction to the Arctic Oil and Gas Research Centre

By: Rachael Lorna Johnstone & Anne Merrild Hansen

The Research Centre for Arctic Oil and Gas opened at Ilisimatusarfik (the University of Greenland) on 16th March 2016. The directors of the Centre are Professor Anne Merrild Hansen and Professor Rachael Lorna Johnstone. The Centre operates within the Institute of Social Sciences, Economics and Journalism at Ilisimatusarfik.

The principal objective of the Centre is to bring together local community members, government representatives, oil and gas companies, NGOs, and academics to examine the social and economic impacts of oil and gas activities in the Arctic. Although the emphasis will be on Greenland, the researchers will draw on experience and research from elsewhere in the Arctic and contribute to the wider research community.

The Centre is based at Ilimmarfik in Nuuk, but the directors will travel around Greenland to meet with different communities, holding meetings with invited stakeholders as well as open fora to ensure that all concerned persons can present their views and hear about the Centre's work. The first such trip is planned to South Greenland in December 2016.

A Greenland-based network of experts will be established, tasked with researching economic and social implications of Arctic oil and gas activities and sharing their results. Researchers will be sought from around the Arctic and beyond in the fields of economics, political science, social anthropology, law, international relations, and critical geography. The network will also reach out to non-academic stakeholders and seek their contributions to the research activities.

The Centre aims to organise and host symposia on Arctic oil and gas and the directors will participate in international conferences to share their research and promote the Centre more widely. Research will be disseminated widely both in academic publications and popular science briefing notes explaining key findings in Greenlandic, English and Danish. The directors will also make oral presentations tailored for both specialist and non-specialist audiences. Working papers and briefing notes will be published on an open-access basis on the Centre's website to facilitate the widest possible access.

The Centre seeks to contribute to the academic development of the next generation of Greenlandic thinkers and leaders and to this end, the directors will supervise doctoral and masters students in relevant fields and teach courses at Ilisimatusarfik on sociology, international law, and oil and gas governance. They will also be involved in curriculum development at Ilisimatusarfik.

The directors' salaries are initially funded through a three-year grant from the Mineral Licence and Safety Authority (MLSA) which is administered through Ilisimatusarfik. Companies holding exclusive licences for the exploration and exploitation of hydrocarbons in Greenland make payments to the MLSA in accordance with their respective license agreements regarding capacity building.

The work of the directors and researchers is entirely independent of the MLSA and the oil companies. The MLSA and oil companies do not direct the research agenda or approve any research findings. The researchers are also in the process of seeking additional external funding from competitive grant bodies to facilitate expansion of the Centre's activities.

Anne Merrild Hansen is Professor of Social Science, Arctic Oil and Gas Studies at Ilisimatusarfik, Director of the Arctic Oil and Gas Research Centre, Associate Professor in Environmental Assessment and the Arctic at Aalborg University, Denmark, and a Fulbright Arctic Initiative scholar 2015-2016 with University of Alaska, Fairbanks.

Rachael Lorna Johnstone is Professor of Law, Arctic Oil and Gas Studies at Ilisimatusarfik, Director of the Arctic Oil and Gas Research Centre, and Professor of Law at the University of Akureyri, Iceland.

#### Website

<http://uk.uni.gl/research/arctic-oil-and-gas-research-centre.aspx> (EN)

<http://www.uni.gl/ilisimatuutut-misissuinerit/ilisimatusarfik-issittumi-uuliamik-gasimillu-sammisalik.aspx> (GL)

<http://da.uni.gl/forskning/forskningscentret-for-arktisk-olie-og-gas.aspx> (DK)

#### Please note

A version of this text is also appearing in the *Arctic Review on Law and Politics*.

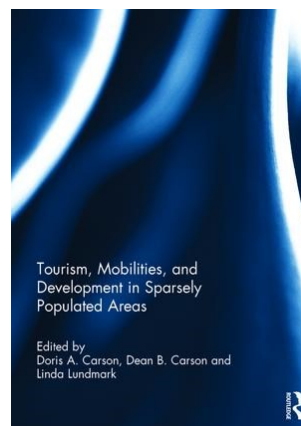


### Tourism, Mobilities, and Development in Sparsely Populated Areas

Eds. Doris Carson, Dean Carson, Linda Lundmark  
134 pages.  
ISBN: 9781138955882  
Milton Park: Routledge  
© 2016 – Routledge

Tourism 'mobilities' are not restricted to the movement of tourists between places of origin and destinations. Particularly in more peripheral, remote, or sparsely populated destinations, workers and residents are also likely to be frequently moving between locations. Such destinations attract seasonal or temporary residents, sometimes with only loose ties to the tourism industry. These flows of mobile populations are accompanied by flows of other resources – money, knowledge, ideas and innovations – which can be used to help the economic and social development of the destination.

This book examines key aspects of the human mobilities associated with tourism in sparsely populated areas, and investigates how new mobility patterns inspired by technological, economic, political, and social change provide both opportunities and risks for those areas. Examples are drawn from the northern peripheries of Europe and the north of



Australia, and the book provides a framework for continuing research into the role that tourism and 'new mobilities' can play in regional development in these locations.

This book was originally published as a special issue of the Scandinavian Journal of Hospitality and Tourism.



### Kamlaniia nanaiskikh shamanov

Author: Tatiana Bulgakova  
Published by: Kulturstiftung Sibirien, Fürstenberg/Havel  
Publication year: 2016  
Pages: 316 p.  
ISBN: 978-3-942883-25-2  
Languages: Russian, Nanai

[http://www.siberian-studies.org/publications/kamnansham\\_E.html](http://www.siberian-studies.org/publications/kamnansham_E.html)

The book provides a comprehensive documentation of Nanai texts with Russian translations. This second volume on Nanai oral traditions contains texts on shamanic healing (see also the first volume Nanai tales, [http://www.siberian-studies.org/publications/nanaiskazki\\_E.html](http://www.siberian-studies.org/publications/nanaiskazki_E.html)), that are further discussed by the author. The texts were recorded by Tatiana Bulgakova between 1980 and 2006 during her fieldwork in the Khabarovsk district in the Russian Far East.



### SLiCA: Arctic living conditions: Living conditions and quality of life among Inuit, Saami and indigenous peoples of Chukotka and the Kola Peninsula

Editor: Poppel, Birger  
Publisher: Copenhagen: Nordisk Ministerråd, 2015,  
426 p.  
Nordic Council of Ministers, Nordic Council of Ministers Secretariat  
TemaNord, ISSN 0908-6692 ; 2015:501  
URN: urn:nbn:se:norden:org:diva-3830  
DOI: 10.6027/TN2015-501  
ISBN: 978-92-893-3895-0  
ISBN: 978-92-893-3897-4  
ISBN: 978-92-893-3896-7  
OAI: oai:DiVA.org:norden-3830  
DiVA: diva2:790312

#### Abstract

The SLiCA anthology probes into the theoretical and methodological background of the SLiCA project, the research design, the ethical principles applied and introduces examples of the wealth of information available on the livelihoods and living conditions of the Inuit, Saami and the indigenous peoples of Chukotka and the Kola Peninsula, measured with quality of life criteria they themselves chose. Furthermore the anthology provides samples of analyses – including comparative and contextual studies – that can be accomplished using SLiCA data. Examples of living conditions and topics analysed are: "suicidal thoughts"; impacts of oil development on living conditions and quality of life; economic stratification; objective and subjective living conditions; education; gender based differences in productive activities; impacts of societal development on men's and women's perceptions of their contributions to their households; factors affecting migration, identity, ethnicity, and herding rights.

norden

SLiCA: Arctic living conditions

Living conditions and quality of life among Inuit, Saami and indigenous peoples of Chukotka and the Kola Peninsula



#### Research subjects

Primary school; Language; Arctic; Business; Labour and employment; Regional policy; Business; Gender equality; Health; Food; Welfare; Sustainable development.

#### Authors

Thomas Andersen, Hugh Beach, Nick Bernard, Ann Ragnhild Broderstad, Gérard Duhaime, Roberson Édouard, Bent-Martin Eliassen, Jack Kruse, Mitdlarak Lennert, Dave Lewis, Marita Melhus, Alexandre Morin, Birger Poppel, MarieKathrine Poppel, Johanna Roto, Kate Turcotte

#### Fulltext download in PDF:

<http://norden.diva-portal.org/smash/get/diva2:790312/FULLTEXT02.pdf>



### Akulina Innokent'evna Struchkova: Various Tales, For the Yukaghir Children

Editor: Cecilia Odé  
Published by: Kulturstiftung Sibirien, Fürstenberg/Havel  
Publication year: 2016  
Pages: 92 p.  
ISBN: 978-3-942883-27-6  
Languages: Tundra Yukaghir, Russian, English  
[http://www.siberian-studies.org/publications/tys\\_E.html](http://www.siberian-studies.org/publications/tys_E.html)

This book provides a collection of Tundra Yukaghir tales, songs and poems that vividly describe moments in the daily life of the Tundra Yukaghirs on the impressive tundra. The texts were recorded by Cecilia Odé and discussed with Akulina Struchkova and other local experts during her fieldwork between 2004 and 2013 in Andriushkino and Cherskii in the Russian Far East.





## New Publications continued

### Waldemar Jochelson: The Koryak

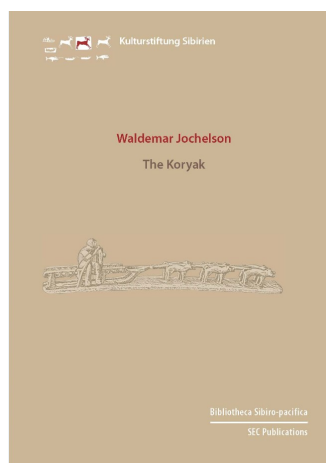
Part I. – Religion and Myths  
Part II. – Material Culture and Social Organization

an Cultures, Fürstenberg/Havel, 2016, with a foreword by Erich Kasten and Michael Dürr.

Editors: Erich Kasten and Michael Dürr  
Published by: Kulturstiftung Sibirien, Fürstenberg/Havel  
Publication year: 2016  
Pages: 884 p., hardcover  
ISBN: 978-3-942883-87-0  
[http://www.siberian-studies.org/publications/jochkoryak\\_E.html](http://www.siberian-studies.org/publications/jochkoryak_E.html)

As the first profound anthropological descriptions of that region, the publications of the Jesup North Pacific Expedition, undertaken in the first years of the 20th century, marked the beginning of a new era of research in Russia. They represented a shift of the already existing transnational research networks toward North America. Jochelson's work *The Koryak* was an important milestone for Russian and North American anthropology that provides to this day a unique contribution to thoroughly understanding the cultures of the North Pacific rim.

First published by the American Museum of Natural History, New York, 1908.  
New edition, published by the Foundation for Siberi-



### Il'ia Kurilov: My Life, Songs

Editor: Cecilia Odé  
Published by: Kulturstiftung Sibirien, Fürstenberg/Havel  
Publication year: 2016  
Pages: 56 p.  
ISBN: 978-3-942883-28-3  
Languages: Tundra Yukaghir, Russian, English

[http://www.siberian-studies.org/publications/tyk\\_E.html](http://www.siberian-studies.org/publications/tyk_E.html)

This book provides a story by Tundra Yukaghir Ilja Kurilov about his life as reindeer herder and musician, and twelve songs with music in the Tundra Yukaghir language. The texts and songs were recorded by Cecilia Odé during her fieldwork in 2004 and 2010 in Andriushkino in the Russian Far East.



### Journal of Northern Studies Issue 2, 2015

The Journal of Northern Studies is a peer-reviewed academic publication issued twice a year. The journal has a specific focus on human activities in northern spaces, and articles concentrate on people as cultural beings, people in society and the interaction between people and the northern environment. In many cases, the contributions represent exciting interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary approaches. Apart from scholarly articles, the journal contains a review section, and a section with reports and information on issues relevant for Northern Studies.

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Contents Issue 2, 2015:

#### Articles

Henrik Lång, Erland Mårdal & Christer Nordlund, *Making Wilderness. An Inquiry into Stig Wesslén's Documentation and Representation of the Northern Swedish Landscape.*

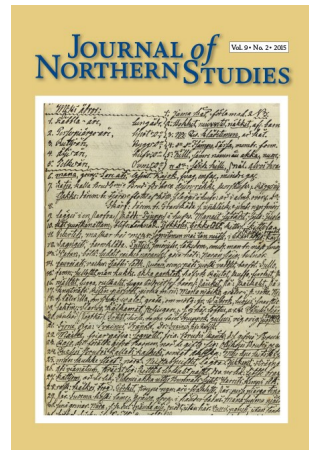
Torjer A. Olsen, *"Masculinities" in Sami studies.*

Niclas Kaiser, Sofia Näckter, Maria Karlsson & Ellinor Salander Renberg, *Experiences of Being a Young Female Sami Reindeer Herder. A Qualitative Study*

*from the Perspective of Mental Health and Intersectionality.*

Anna Westman Kuhmunen, *A Female Perspective on Sami Bear Ceremonies.*

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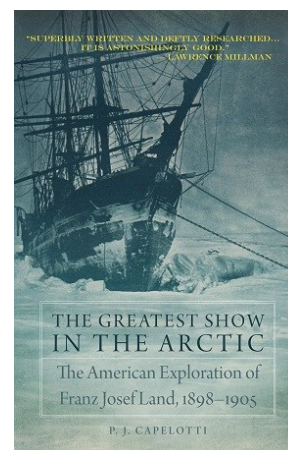


### The Greatest Show in the Arctic: the American exploration of Franz Josef Land, 1898-1905

Author: P. J. Capelotti  
648 pp with maps and archival photographs  
ISBN-10: 0806152222  
ISBN-13: 978-0806152226  
Price: \$34.95

The Greatest Show in the Arctic: the American exploration of Franz Josef Land, 1898-1905, is published as part of the American Exploration & Travel Series of the University of Oklahoma Press. It distills a quarter century of Arctic fieldwork and international archival research in a major reevaluation of the history of and impulses behind the American approach to polar exploration.

In Gilded Age America, Arctic explorers were fabulous celebrities—assured of riches and near-immortality so long as they reached the North Pole first. Of the many attempts to meet that goal, three American expeditions, launched from the Russian archipelago of Franz Josef Land, ended in abject failure, their exploits consigned to near-oblivion. Even so, these ventures—the Wellman expedition (1898-99), the Baldwin-Ziegler (1901-2), and the Fiala-Ziegler (1903-5)—have much to tell us about



the personalities, politics, and economics of exploration in their day. In *The Greatest Show in the Arctic*, the first book to chronicle all three expeditions, P. J. Capelotti explores what went right and what, in the end, went tragically wrong.



## New Publications continued

### Care, Cooperation and Activism in Canada's Northern Social Economy

The University of Alberta Press  
Printed in Canada  
\$24.95 in Canada  
Book design by Denise Ahlefeldt  
[www.uap.ualberta.ca](http://www.uap.ualberta.ca)  
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978-1-77212-087-5

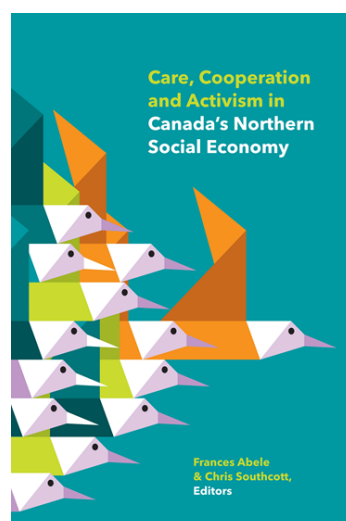
People across Canada's North have created vibrant community institutions to serve a wide range of social and economic needs. Neither state-driven nor profit-oriented, these organizations form a relatively under-studied third sector of the economy. Researchers from the Social Economy Research Network of Northern Canada explore this sector through fifteen case studies, encompassing artistic, recreational, cultural, political, business, and economic development organizations that are crucial to the health and vitality of their communities. *Care, Cooperation and Activism in Canada's Northern Social Economy* shows the innovative diversity and utter necessity of home-grown institutions in communities across Labrador, Nunatsiavut, Nunavik, Nunavut, Northwest Territories, and Yukon. Readers, researchers, and students interested in social economy, Aboriginal studies, and northern communities will find much to enjoy and value in this book.

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### Kultura i resursy. Opyt etnologicheskogo obsledovaniia sovremennogo polozheniia narodov Severa Sakhalina [*Culture and Resources: The Results of an Ethnological Survey of Contemporary Conditions among the Northern Native Peoples of Sakhalin*]

Funk D. (ed.)  
Moscow: OOO  
"Izdatel'stvo Demos",  
2015  
272 p.  
ISBN 978-5-9904710-6-1

The amazingly beautiful island of Sakhalin has for centuries been a contact area of different cultures. Here since ancient times collided the interests of those who managed to feel aboriginal and those initially considered outsiders, strangers, and who regarded themselves as such. In the past century and a half these contacts became much more in-

tense due to the active development of Sakhalin and the Kuril Islands by Russia and Japan. There is a variety of factors that affected the condition of all areas of culture of the aboriginal population of Sakhalin. Amongst them the development of natural resources of the island by convicts, then afterwards by civilian employees, by one state and then another, difficult inter-state relations between the two powers, the specifics of the national policy of the USSR in the postwar period, the incredibly difficult post-perestroika period and a sharp intensification of industrial companies' activities in the area of extraction of non-renewable natural resources.



### **Kultura i resursy. Opyt etnologicheskogo obsledovaniia sovremennogo polozheniia narodov Severa Sakhalina [Culture and Resources: The Results of an Ethnological Survey of Contemporary Conditions among the Northern Native Peoples of Sakhalin] continued**

The authors from the Institute of Ethnology and Anthropology of the Russian Academy of Sciences and the Lomonossov Moscow State University purposely abandoned the idea of expertise of any kind, considering the lack of methodology of the so called ethnological expertise. The aim of the research was the collection and analysis of published, archival and the authors' field materials, which were supposed to allow to present in a historical context, as far back as possible in the dynamics, the main ethnic and cultural/social characteristics of the studied indigenous cultures of the Sakhalin region. The research – initially as a project titled "Ethnological Studies of Sakhalin Indigenous Minorities" and initiated / financially supported by Exxon Neftegas Limited – was conducted during 2013 in the settlements of three municipalities with population of over 300 Aboriginal people, that is, in the Okha (998 people in March 2013), Nogliki (856 people) and Poronaisk districts (344 people) as well as in the regional center Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk (254 people). Within the duration of the project, there were interviewed about 170 people, more than 3,000 photographs were taken and about 100 videos were captured. The book consists of eight blocks (chapters) of information adequately and consistently representing the main results of the research that include *Old*

*and new identities* (by Alexandra Terekhina and Dmitri Funk), *Demographic analysis* (by Kyrill Shakhovtsov), *Social situation* (by Alexandra Skibina), *Economic activities of Indigenous Peoples* (by Shakhovtsov, Nadezhda Mamontova, and Funk), *The Indigenous Peoples of Sakhalin and oil companies* (by Mamontova), *Education and the Indigenous Peoples of Sakhalin* (by Terekhina), *Linguistic contacts and the sociolinguistic situation* (by Mamontova), and *(Re)presentation of the Indigenous Peoples of Sakhalin* (by Skibina).

The book is supplied by recommendations, statistical data, and a DVD with pictures and video collected by the team.

The collective volume *Culture and Resources: The Results of an Ethnological Survey of Contemporary Conditions among the Northern Native Peoples of Sakhalin* can be of interest for all practicing as well as for sociocultural anthropologists seeking for examples of interaction between indigenous/local groups, various business structures and the state in Northern Asia.

An e-version of the book can be downloaded for free at <http://static.iea.ras.ru/books/Sakhalin.pdf>

## **Canada's Marine Coasts in a Changing Climate**

Edited by:

Donald S. Lemmen, Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation Division, Natural Resources Canada

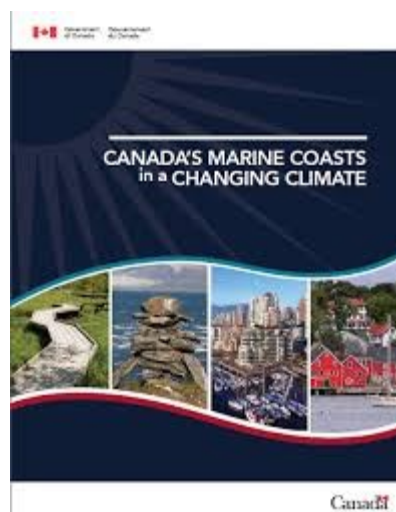
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Canada's Marine Coasts in a Changing Climate assesses climate change sensitivity, risks and adaptation along Canada's marine coasts. The report includes overviews of regional climate change impacts, risks and opportunities along Canada's three marine coasts, case studies demonstrating action, and discussion of adaptation approaches.

Download full copy (PDF, 20.6 MB) [here](#)



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